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 ACTION RP-10

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	CA-02	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DS-00	EUR-01	OIGO-01	HA-09	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	FMP-00	PMB-00	/058W			

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O 111151Z APR 94
 FM USMISSION GENEVA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7378
 INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 03373

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12356: N/A
 TAGS: PINS, AEMR, CASC, PREL, EAID, PREF, RW
 SUBJECT: TFRW01: ICRC, IFRC, UNHCR AND DHA SITREPS ON
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 SITUATION IN RWANDA - APRIL 11

REF: GENEVA 3333

SUMMARY

1. ICRC REPORTED THAT, AS OF LATE MORNING RWANDA TIME
 ON APRIL 11, THERE WAS STILL FIGHTING IN THE STREETS OF
 KIGALI. OUTSIDE OF KIGALI, BIUMBA WAS SAID TO BE UNDER
 FIRE AT THE MOMENT; THE SITUATION WAS VERY BAD IN

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MUGESERA; AND RUHENERI WAS CONSIDERED "EMPTY." ICRC'S 26 EXPAT DELEGATES REMAIN IN RWANDA AND WILL BE JOINED ON APRIL 12 BY A SEVEN-PERSON SURGICAL TEAM.

2. UNHCR HOPES TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO BURUNDI REFUGEES IN BUTARE, RWANDA, THROUGH A CROSS-BORDER OPERATION OUT OF NGOZI IN NORTHERN BURUNDI. IFRC'S STRATEGY IS TO BE PREPARED IN ZAIRE, TANZANIA, BURUNDI AND UGANDA FOR POSSIBLE REFUGEE OUTFLOWS (WHICH, AT THIS POINT, ARE MINIMAL). DHA/GENEVA IS HOSTING A MEETING ON APRIL 11 FOR OPERATIONAL AGENCIES AND NGO'S TO DISCUSS THE CRISIS IN RWANDA. END SUMMARY.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

3. ICRC WILL SEND A SURGICAL TEAM ON A SPECIAL FLIGHT FROM BRUSSELS ON MONDAY EVENING, FOR ARRIVAL IN BUJUMBURA AND THEN AN OVERLAND TRIP TO KIGALI ON TUESDAY
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MORNING. DANIEL AUGSTBURGER, RWANDA-BURUNDI DESK
OFFICER, TOLD MISSIONOFF THAT THE TEAM WOULD CONSIST OF
FIVE MEDICAL PERSONNEL OUT OF GENEVA PLUS TWO MORE OUT
OF BUJUMBURA. THE GENEVA PERSONNEL CONSIST OF A DOCTOR,
AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST AND THREE NURSES.

4. AUGSTBURGER SAID IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, TO SAVE LIVES ON THE SPOT THROUGH FIRST AID PERFORMED BY ICRC EXPAT DELEGATES (ALL 26 REMAIN IN-COUNTRY) AND THE RWANDAN RED CROSS (WHICH HE SAID WAS DOING A GOOD JOB). ICRC WILL BE INCREASING ITS DELEGATION IN RWANDA. HE SAID THEY WERE WORKING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PUBLIC SERVICES AND THE ARMY TO REMOVE BODIES FROM THE STREETS; HE WOULD NOT SPECULATE AS TO THE NUMBER, THOUGH THERE WOULD BE MANY TRUCKLOADS OF CORPSES AND THE OPERATION WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME.

5. AS OF LATE MONDAY MORNING RWANDA TIME, AUGSTBURGER REPORTED THAT THERE WAS STILL FIGHTING IN THE STREETS OF KIGALI. OUTSIDE OF KIGALI, BIUMBA WAS SAID TO BE UNDER FIRE AT THE MOMENT; THE SITUATION WAS VERY BAD IN MUGESERA (SP?); AND RUHENERI WAS CONSIDERED "EMPTY," THOUGH THE ICRC DELEGATE REMAINED THERE.

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6. MISSIONOFF ASKED ABOUT PRESS REPORTS CITING ICRC/KIGALI AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION. AUGSTBURGER SAID THE SITUATION WAS FAST-MOVING AND THEY WERE UNABLE TO ISSUE FREQUENT PRESS RELEASES. INSTEAD, IT WAS FINE WITH THEM TO HAVE BBC, RFI AND OTHER NEWS SERVICES DIRECTLY CONTACT THEIR DELEGATE IN KIGALI AND THEN SPREAD THE WORD, THROUGH THE MEDIA, ON CONDITIONS IN
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RWANDA.

UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

7. JIDDO VAN DRUNEN, HEAD OF THE RWANDA/BURUNDI EMERGENCY UNIT, SAID ALL BUT THREE UNHCR EXPATS MADE IT OUT OF RWANDA OVER THE WEEKEND AND THE REMAINING THREE ARE EXPECTED OUT ON MONDAY. UNHCR REMAINS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FATE OF ITS LOCAL STAFF.

8. MISSIONOFF ASKED ABOUT PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO

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BURUNDI REFUGEES REMAINING IN RWANDA, AND VAN DRUNEN
RESPONDED THAT THERE ARE STILL LOCAL STAFF IN BUTARE
CAMP, AND SOME BELGIANS WORKING WITH MSF REMAIN IN
RWANDA. HE SAID UNHCR EXPECTS THAT ITS STAFF WHO HAD
BEEN WORKING IN BUTARE WILL BEGIN A CROSS-BORDER
OPERATION FOR FOOD AND NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE OUT OF NGOZI
AND KIRURO IN NORTHERN BURUNDI. UNHCR ALSO HOPES TO DO
A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION TO BUTARE IN A FEW DAYS. HE
ADDED THAT THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM IS LOOKING AT VARIOUS
ALTERNATE SUPPLY ROUTES FOR THE FOOD ASSISTANCE PIPELINE
THAT FORMERLY HAD GONE VIA RWANDA.

9. UNHCR KNOWS OF VERY LIMITED NEW REFUGEE FLOWS OUT OF
RWANDA OR BURUNDI. SOME 600 RWANDAN TUTSIS HAVE GONE TO
ZAIRE NEAR GOMA. WHILE A FEW HUNDRED PEOPLE FLED
BURUNDI FOR TANZANIA, THEY RETURNED AFTER BEING
CONVINCED THERE WAS NOT A CURRENT PROBLEM IN BURUNDI.
THERE ALSO ARE A FEW HUNDRED NEW BURUNDI REFUGEES WHO
HAVE GONE TO UVIRA, ZAIRE. BASED ON HIS RECENT
EXPERIENCE AS UNHCR DEPUTY IN ZAIRE, VAN DRUNEN SAID HE
DOES NOT EXPECT LARGE REFUGEE OUTFLOWS. HE POINTED OUT

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THAT IN 1991 IT HAD BEEN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR RWANDAN TUTSIS TO ESCAPE TO ZAIRE SAFELY.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS/CRESCENT SOCIETIES

10. IFRC'S ROBERT WATKINS, PROGRAM OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THEIR OPERATION IN THE REGION, SAID THEY HAVE TEN EXPAT DELEGATES ON STANDBY IN BUJUMBURA AND THE FEDERATION IS WAITING TO SEE WHERE IT CAN INTERVENE. THEY WILL

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ACCOMPANY UNHCR ON A TRIP TO NORTHERN BURUNDI TO DETERMINE IF ANY POPULATION MOVEMENTS HAVE OCCURRED OUT OF RWANDA.

11. WATKINS SAID IFRC DOES NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO RESUME OPERATIONS IN RWANDA IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. (NOTE. IN THE RED CROSS MOVEMENT, ICRC GENERALLY PROVIDES PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE IN SITUATIONS OF CONFLICT, WHILE THE FEDERATION PROVIDES ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF CONFLICT AREAS. END NOTE.) IFRC'S STRATEGY IS TO BE PREPARED FOR POSSIBLE REFUGEE OUTFLOWS FROM ITS BASES IN EASTERN ZAIRE, WESTERN TANZANIA, BURUNDI AND UGANDA. HE AGREED WITH THE UNHCR REPORT THAT ONLY 600 TUTSIS HAD FLED RWANDA AS REFUGEES, BUT HE PREDICTS THAT MORE PEOPLE WILL LEAVE.

UN DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

12. DHA, WHICH HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS IN COMPLEX EMERGENCIES, IS HOLDING AN OPERATIONAL MEETING ON THE CRISIS ON MONDAY AFTERNOON IN GENEVA FOR UN AGENCIES, OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

13. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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